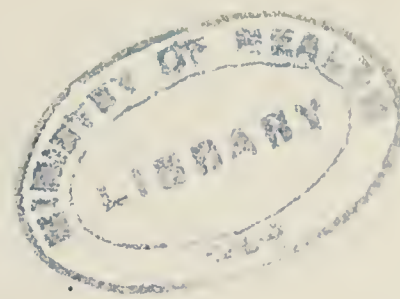


LIBRARY

RECEIVED
A - 7 JUL 48
84



O O A K H A M

R U R A L D I S T R I C T C O U N C I L

-----oOo-----

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

for the

Y E A R E N D I N G

31st D E C E M B E R, 1 9 4 7.

-----oOo-----

OAKHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

1 9 4 7

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

In accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health, I deal briefly in this report with matters within my responsibility regarding public health and preventive medicine:-

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	52,551.
Registrar General's estimate of population					6,101.
Number of inhabited houses	...	...	...		1,928
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	£44,080
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	£ 179

		<u>VITAL STATISTICS.</u>		
Live-		<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Births	- Legitimate	<u>70</u>	<u>68</u>	<u>138</u>
"	Illegitimate	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>19</u>
		<u>79</u>	<u>78</u>	<u>157</u>
Still Births	Legitimate	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>8</u>
	Illegitimate	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
		<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>8</u>

	<u>Rate for District</u>	<u>Rate for England & Wales</u>
Birth Rate	25.7	20.5
Death Rate	13.4	12.0
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	50.9	41

		<u>CAUSES OF DEATH.</u>	
		<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Tuberculosis of respiratory system		1	-
Influenza		-	2
Cancer of stomach and duodenum		2	-
Cancer of breast		-	1
Cancer of all other sites		8	4
Intracranial vascular lesions		5	8
Heart diseases		8	7
Other diseases of circulatory system		1	4
Bronchitis		5	3
Pneumonia		1	-
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum		2	-

Cd. fwd. 33 29

Causes of death (Continued)

Bt. Fwd.	<u>Males</u> 33	<u>Females</u> 29
Diarrhoea under 2 years.	1	-
Digestive disturbances	-	1
Nephritis	-	1
Maternal causes	-	1
Premature birth	1	2
Congenital maleformation - birth injury - infant diseases	-	2
Road traffic accidents	1	-
Other violent causes	1	-
All other causes	6	3
	<u>43</u>	<u>39</u>

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

1. PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

Medical Officer of Health - J. Young, M.B., Ch.B.,
D.P.H., Camb.

The Medical Officer of Health acts for Leicestershire & Rutland Combined Districts in which this District is included.

Sanitary Inspector - G.E.Wells, Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspector's Examination; Royal Sanitary Institute, Meat and Other Foods and Certificates General Hygiene and Sanitary Engineering.

The Sanitary Inspector is also the Surveyor of the Rural District.

2. LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The following examinations from your area were carried out during the year at the Emergency Public Health Laboratory, Leicester:-

Blood	...	...	...	...	...	28
Blood cultures	..	...	...	...	...	4
Throat swabs	...	...	...	...	...	47
Naso-pharyngeal swab		...	...	...	...	1
Post nasal and nasal swabs			...	...	...	2
Throat and nose swabs		...	...	...	...	3
Swab from gums	.	...	...	...	...	2
Swab from abscess		...	...	...	...	1
Swab from ear	...	...	...	...	...	2
Slides and swab from pus of eye	...		...	...	...	1
Sputum	...	...	...	...	...	3

2. LABORATORY FACILITIES (Contd.).

Pus from septic hand	...	...	...	...	1
Pleural fluid	...	...	...	...	3
Bloodclot	...	...	...	...	1
Cerebrospinal fluid	...	...	...	...	6
Pleural fluid	...	...	...	...	3
Vaginal swab	...	...	...	...	5
Faeces	...	...	...	...	76
Urine	...	...	...	...	7
<hr/>					
Dried Egg	...	...	...	...	1
<hr/>					

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. WATER.

Number of samples taken for analysis:-

(a) from wells	...	...	...	...	15
(b) from pipe supply	...	...	...	...	9

Results from samples taken:-

(a) from wells -	Satisfactory	5
	Unsatisfactory	10
(b) from pipe supply -	satisfactory	8
	Unsatisfactory	1

Number of wells:-

(a) closed	...	...	...	...	Nil
(b) cleansed, repaired, etc.	...	...	...	...	7

Number of cases in which piped supply was provided ... 11

Number of Parishes with piped water supply:-

(a) from public mains	...	...	...	6
(b) from private reservoirs	...	...	...	9

Number of Parishes without a piped water supply 13

Satisfactory results have been received of samples taken from the Council's water undertakings during the year, but cleaning out of private wells has again been necessary in some cases to ensure a wholesome supply.

Following the War period it was necessary during 1947 to execute a considerable number of repairs to the existing waterworks to render these completely serviceable, whilst

1. WATER. (Contd.).

consultations with other Authorities and the Ministry of Health for a comprehensive scheme for the whole District are going forward.

In the Oakham Rural District the water supply is obtained from various public and private water-undertakings and wells, and in most parishes a supply sufficient for the present needs of the residents is available. During 1947, however, shortage of supplies have been reported from Whissendine, Greetham and Manton, Teigh and Cottesmore. The shortage of water in the parish of Barrow reported in my Annual Report for 1943 was relieved in 1944, when the Council extended the main from Market Overton, and no further complaint has been received from this parish.

The chief difficulty during the year 1947 has arisen through partial failures of three of the Council's own undertakings at Whissendine, Greetham and Manton. In the case of Whissendine, shortage has been noted in previous years, and was referred to in my Annual Report for 1943, when it was anticipated that the trouble would most likely recur. A marked falling off of the yield of the spring at Cold Overton during Autumn months is the cause of this recurring shortage, and the trouble has been aggravated by the numerous leaks found in the original water connections, many of which have now been repaired.


At Greetham, the existing spring which feeds this small undertaking failed during the summer months, and the difficulty was overcome by enlarging the collecting tank to receive the flow of two adjoining springs.

The Manton village supply, obtained from a deep boring, also showed signs of shortage during 1947, and trouble was experienced with the pumping apparatus there. This had to receive some attention on several occasions, and in December, the Council arranged for the pump to be completely overhauled. Shortage of water in the bore itself is also to be investigated.

In the village of Teigh, the only supply is from wells. A scheme of water supply to this village from Market Overton has been drawn up by the Council's Engineers, which will also augment the Whissendine water undertaking, but there are no signs of this work being put in hand in the near future. At Cottesmore it is hoped that a supply from the Aerodrome will shortly be available in part of the village.

At Edith Weston, where at the moment only one stand-pipe is provided for the whole of the village, complaint has been made more in connection with the inconvenience caused in obtaining water from this one source than of actual shortage, and negotiations are going forward with the Air Ministry for a complete village supply to be provided from the Aerodrome nearby.

Samples of water from the Council's water undertakings were taken and submitted for analysis during 1947, some for bacteriological and others for chemical examination. With one exception, these proved satisfactory. The adverse report



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b29934047>

1. WATER (Contd.).

concerned the Greetham supply immediately following disturbance of the system for repairs, but subsequent analysis proved that this water has retained its former high standard of purity.

The Oakham Urban District Council, which has now taken over the undertaking of the former Oakham Water Company, has mains into several of the villages near Oakham, and samples taken from their supply also proved quite satisfactory. Analysis of water from privately owned wells in the District, show the water to be of poor quality, and cleaning out of some of these wells has been found necessary during 1947 to improve the standard of these supplies. All waters in this District are of the "hard" variety, and no cases of plumbo-solvency have ever been noted or reported.

Particulars of the supplies to the villages where the Oakham Rural District has water undertakings are as follows :-

	Piped to Houses.	Houses supplied from stand-pipes.	Farm Supplies.
Empingham	67	59	12
Manton	37	40	2
Market Overton	40	60	5
Barrow	6	11	2
Whissendine	70	87	-
Greetham	-	120	-
	220	377	21

2. DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Number of cesspools constructed during the year	4
Number of cesspools abolished during the year	Nil
Total number on 31st December, 1946	348

Sewerage.

Attention was given and repairs carried out to existing sewers in Market Overton, Empingham and Ashwell, and other villages during the course of 1947. A length of defective sewer in the parish of Langham also had to be completely relaid.

Sewage Disposal.

Periodical attention to minor defects at the various Sewage Works has been given when occasion demanded.

3. CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Total number in the District at the end of 1947:-

Privies	27
Pail Closets	1527
Water Closets	325

3. Closet Accommodation (Continued).

Number of closets converted to the water carriage system during the year:-

Privies	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pails	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

Number of privies converted to pail closets during the year 1

4. PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Nine of the villages in the District - Cottesmore, Exton, Empingham, Langham, Market Overton, Greetham, Tickencote, Manton and Whitwell, are now provided with a weekly collection of refuse carried out by the Contractors on behalf of the Council, and a fortnightly collection is also provided at Barleythorpe and Braunston. A partial removal is provided for Ashwell, Barrow, Whissendine, Braunston, Hambleton and Gunthorpe.

The first-named nine villages are provided with a weekly scavenging system of night-soil carried out by Contractors on behalf of the Council. Cesspools at Empingham are emptied by contract.

Some complaints were received during late 1947 in connection with scavenging at Greetham and Cottesmore, as the Contractor for these and other parishes found some difficulty in coping with all of his scavenging undertakings. By arrangement, the work of scavenging these two parishes was transferred to another Contractor, and no further complaints have since been received.

5. SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The particulars given under this Heading are for all purposes including particulars given elsewhere in this Report:-

Total number of complaints received	...	...	272
Total number of defects or nuisances discovered	...	...	221

<u>Nature of Inspections</u>	<u>Inspections.</u>	<u>Re-visits.</u>
Dwelling Houses	606	347
Tents, Vans, etc.	3	4
Slaughter houses	10	-
Dairies and cowsheds	48	63
Offensive trades	-	-
Animal keeping	8	18
Workshops, etc.	16	30
Shops	21	15
Other premises	577	658
	<u>1289</u>	<u>1135</u>

N O T I C E S

<u>Preliminary</u>	<u>Housing</u>	<u>Other</u>
Outstanding 1st January	11	2

N O T I C E S (Contd.)

<u>Preliminary</u>	<u>Housing</u>	<u>Other</u>
Issued during the year ...	181	40
Complied with during year ..	183	41
Statutory action necessary	-	5
Outstanding 31st December	9	1

<u>Statutory</u>		
Outstanding on 1st January	21	-
Issued during year ...	1	5
Complied with during year ..	2	4
Statutory action necessary	-	5
Outstanding 31st December ..	20	1

6. SHOPS.

Action taken during the year under the Provisions of the Shops Act, 1934:-

	<u>Outstanding from</u> <u>Previous Year.</u>	<u>Defects</u> <u>Found.</u>	<u>Defects</u> <u>Remedied</u>	<u>Outstanding</u> <u>31st Dec.</u>
Sanitary				
Conveniences	-	1	1	-
Temperature	-	-	-	-
Ventilation	-	-	-	-

7. CAMPING SITES.

Number of sites in the area used for camping purposes during the year ...	...	2
Number of camping sites for which licences have been issued ...	...	1
Estimated maximum number of campers resident in the area during Summer months		8

8. REGULATED BUILDINGS.

	<u>Number in</u> <u>District</u>	<u>Number of</u> <u>Inspections</u>	<u>Action</u> <u>taken</u>	<u>General</u> <u>Conditions</u>
Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.	3	7	Removed	Satisfactory

The removal of vans situated in the District was effected during the course of the year without resort to legal proceedings.

H O U S I N G.

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

Figures include inspections made under the provisions of Hobhouse Report by the Housing Survey Officer.

- (1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health or Housing Acts) ... 1,675

H O U S I N G (Contd.).

(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	2,022
(ii)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (i) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 and Housing Survey	...	...	...	...	1,069
(iii)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation or scheduled for future condemnation under the Housing Survey					392
(iv)	Number of dwelling houses exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation					543

During the course of 1947 the Housing Survey, as recommended by the Hobhouse Report, was completed in the Oakham Rural District and the results tabulated for submission to the Council in December. These were as follows, classified under the headings suggested in the Report:-

1.	Houses found to be fit for habitation or with minor defects only	146
	Permanent Council Houses	111

	Classification 1	257
		=====
2.	Houses scheduled for structural alteration and repair	
	Classification 2	327
		=====
3.	Houses scheduled for re-conditioning	
	Classification 3	293
		=====
4.	Houses scheduled for demolition or replacement.	
	Classification 4	423
		=====

The Council's own houses have been surveyed as expected by the Rutland Rural Joint Housing Committee, but the figures are shown separately to provide a clearer picture of the various grades of other properties. Altogether 1,300 houses were inspected, and a further 454 were recorded as being definitely outside the scope of the Survey.

While the figures for the houses stated to be in such a condition as to warrant consideration for future demolition and replacement appear high, it must be borne in mind that much of the property in this District is of great age, and of a class, which, although considered satisfactory in its time,

H O U S I N G (Contd.).

must now be regarded as being well below the requirements of modern standards. It will also be seen from the above figures that of the remaining properties, a large percentage need complete re-conditioning as distinct from repair.

With regard to the 28 cases of overcrowding found to exist at the time of inspection, three of these were known to be abated before the close of 1947, and others are being dealt with in the near future.

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICE

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	183
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR:-

(i) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice under Housing Acts:-

(a) by owners	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(b) by Council (in default of owners carrying out works)	...	...	...	...	...	1

(ii) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:-

(a) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	5
--	-----	-----	-----	---

(b) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice:-	4
---	---

By owners	...	...	...	...	2
By Council	...	...	...	...	2

(iii) Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:-

Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of the Demolition Orders	...	1
--	-----	---

4. HOUSING ACT, PART IV, OVERCROWDING.

(i) (a) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	...	...	...	...	25
(b) Number of families dwelling therein	...	...	...	...	26
(c) Number of persons dwelling therein	...	...	...	...	162

(ii) Number of cases of overcrowding reported during the year	16
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

(iii) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	3
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

(iv) Number of persons concerned in such cases	16
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

1. MILK.

	<u>Cowkeepers.</u>	<u>Dairymen or Purveyors of Milk (Other than Cowkeepers)</u>
Number on Register	161	6
Number of inspections of premises ...	105	6
Number of contraventions outstanding from previous year ...	4	-
Number of contraventions found during the year	21	1
Number of contraventions remedied during the year	23	1
Number of contraventions outstanding 31st December, 1947	2	-

During the year 8 samples of milk were taken for analysis.

Total Contraventions.

	<u>Outstanding from previous Year.</u>	<u>Found during Year.</u>	<u>Remedied during Year.</u>	<u>Outstanding 31st Dec.</u>
Cleansing	-	5	5	-
Structural Alterations	4	16	18	2
Utensils	-	1	1	-
Other	-	-	-	-

2. MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Private Slaughter Houses:-

		<u>In Jan. 1947</u>	<u>In Dec. 1947.</u>
Number registered	...	-	-
Number licensed	...	11	10X

X Under Emergency Regulations slaughtering for this area is carried out at Melton Mowbray.

Number of visits to premises other than at times
of slaughter 10

3. MEAT SHOPS, MEAT STORES, ETC. 9 Inspections were made.

4. PLACES WHERE FOOD OTHER THAN MEAT IS KEPT OR PREPARED FOR SALE.

28 Inspections were made.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS
AND OTHER DISEASES.

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Total cases notified</u>	<u>Cases admitted to Hospital</u>	<u>Total Deaths.</u>
Scarlet Fever	10	8	-
Diphtheria	1	1	-
Typhoid Fever	1	-	-
Dysentery	2	-	-
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	1	1
Anterior Poliomyelitis	1	1	-
Pneumonia	5	2	-
Erysipelas	2	2	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	2	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	-	-
Measles	24	4	-
Whooping Cough	5	-	-

The Scarlet Fever cases were of the usual mild type which is prevalent nowadays.

The case of Diphtheria was a soldier at Ashwell Camp. There was no history of any preventative inoculation so presumably he had never been immunised.

The case of Typhoid Fever which was notified was an old man, aged 81, who lives at Langham. After careful investigation I ascertained that he had frequently suffered from bladder trouble several years previously, and I came to the conclusion that he had probably been a typhoid carrier for some time. He had no clinical symptoms of typhoid fever.

AGE GROUPS.

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Under 1</u>	<u>1 2</u>	<u>2 3</u>	<u>3 4</u>	<u>4 5</u>	<u>5 10</u>	<u>10 15</u>	<u>15 20</u>	<u>20 35</u>	<u>35 45</u>	<u>45 65</u>	<u>65 & over</u>
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	1	2	3	3	-	1	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Typhoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Dysentery	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Cerebro Spinal Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Anterior Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3	-	1	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	2	1	4	1	-	9	2	3	1	1	-	-
Whooping Cough	2	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-

Seven cases of Salmonella infection were also reported.

The following cases of infectious disease were notified by Army and R.A.F. Authorities in the District:-

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Ages</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Measles	1	19	1
Tuberculosis	2	23 & 19	2
Pneumonia	2	21 & 24	2
Diphtheria	1	19	1

These cases have been included in the foregoing statements of infectious and other diseases.

T U B E R C U L O S I S

New Cases and Mortality during 1 9 4 7.

AGE GROUPS	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
5 - 15	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
15 - 25	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
25 - 35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

S C A B I E S.

The arrangements made with the Joint Committee of the Melton & Belvoir Rural District Council and the Melton Mowbray Urban District Council for the treatment of adult cases of Scabies in the area at the Scabies Centre, Melton Mowbray, have again proved quite satisfactory. Two cases were treated during the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN YOUNG,

Medical Officer of Health.

